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Letters To The Editor

Chase City, Va.
January 16, 1979

Dear Editor

Robert E. Lee's birthday (January 19) and his military brilliance for the Confederacy are well-known. Let us remember also, however, that he opposed recession, owned no person but himself, and favored and orderly end to enforced servitude long before the War Between The States.

Yours Truly
Shelton H. Short

Red House Ruritan Club Receives Charter

January 15 was an important date for the newly organized Red House Ruritan Club. This was "Charter Night". The Charter was presented to the newly elected President Anthony Reeves for the Club, by the 1978 Apomattox District Governor Joe Weakley and National Director, Jimmy Yeatts on behalf of Ruritan National, after a tasty covered dish supper.

Club Officers elected for the year 1979 are Anthony Reeves, President; Kenneth Marston, Vice-President; Rev. Hilton Moore, Jr., Secretary; Mike Weakley, Treasurer; John M. Barksdale, Director 1 yr.; G. Foster Reynolds, Director 2 yrs.; Tom Lambert, Director 3 yrs. The nominating committee was Jack Chambers, Chairman; James Bennett, and Benny Marston.

Others assisting in the Chartering Ceremony of the Club were 1979 District Governor, Dorman Price; Cade Holliday, a Past District Governor; Horace W. Coleman, Jr., 1978 Zone 3 Governor and William , Billy, Williamson of the Cartersville Ruritan Club, 1979 Zone 3 Governor.

Pamplin Ruritan Club is the sponsoring club and was represented by Ryland Womack 1978 Club President; Robert F. Miner, Treasurer; and Chris Largiader, Club member.

Chartered members signed up as of December and January meetings are; Anthony Reeves, John W. Chambers, John M. Barksdale , Mike Weakley, Alonza H. "Doc." Morris, Phil Reynolds, Lester Fannon, Thomas Reeves, Michael Reeves, Lewis R. Elder, G. Foster Reynolds, Kenneth Marston, Tom Conrad, Melvin Reeves, Page Petty, Leslie May, Benny Marston, Rev. Hilton Moore, Jr., James Bennett, John T. Hunter, Jr., and Tom Lambert.

The Charter will be open until the March meeting and others interested in becoming members of the Red House Club can sign as Charter members until that time.

The members voted to hold the regular club meeting on the first Monday of the month and the board meeting on the last day of the month. The latter meeting will be for the elected officers and directors and certain others as invited to atten It will also give members missng a meeting an opportunity to make it up by attending a meeting of the board. Or, they can attend a regular meeting of another Ruritan Club.

Regular meeting will be held in the Red House Community Center.

Committe Chairman and members will be decided at the board meeting the last Monday in January. Plans for the coming year will be worked out.

Employers Must File W-2 Forms With SSA

Employers must now file Forms W-2 and W-2P with the Social Security Administration, and not with the Internal Revenue Service, the IRS said. Deadline for filing these forms is by February 28, 1979.

Previously, Form W-2, "Annual Wage and Tax Statement," and W-2P, "Statement for Recipients of Periodic Annuities, Pensions, Retired Pay or IRS Payments," were filed with the IRS. The 1978 W-2 and W-2P are considerably different than the 1977 W-2 and W-2P. It is important that the proper tax year W-2 and W-2P are used, the IRS said.

Under the new procedure, the forms will be processed by the SSA, which will then furnish the IRS with all data (including income tax date) on the forms.

The change should reduce paperwork for employers because the forms will include Social Security coverage information as well as employee earnings information, with computations for quarterly wage coverage being determined on an annual basis, according to the IRS.

Also as part of this new Combined Annual Wage Reporting System, the IRS said, employers may report wage and tax information on paper, magnetic tape, or a variety of magnetic media. For reporting to SSA, employers must remember to attach Form W-3, "Transmittal of Income and Tax Statements," with copies A of Forms W-2 and W-2P.

The IRS emphasized that employers should use the pre-addressed labels sent to them. The labels are included in the mailout of Publication 393, "Federal Employment Tax Forms." The labels should be affixed to the Form W-3, "Transmittal of Income and Tax Statements."

For additional information, IRS Publication 15, "Circular E-Employer's Tax Guide," is available free from local IRS offices.

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THE BIBLE AND DAILY LIVING

By Dr. William L. Trimyer

Lesson for January 28, 1979
Background Scriptures:
Nehemiah 1:1-4:23; John 15:1-17

'. . . "Let us rise up and build." So they strengthened their hands for the good work.'

The story of Nehemiah is a case in point of what one person can do to bring about a change. It is likewise a story of one man with one idea, and who refused to believe that his idea was impossible. Nehemiah believed so strongly in the goodness of God that he took on the seemingly impossible task of rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem.

Facing the Opposition

A "good idea" will often meet with opposition. There are skeptics in every crowd who will throw water on a good idea; they will cast a shadow over someone's determination to take on a seemingly futile task. But these "skeptics" serve their purpose, for they cause us to evaluate what we set out to do and provide us with a drive to see it through.

Nehemiah faced the same kind of opposition and then some. His task was further complicated by the enemies of Jerusalem. Jerusalem's enemies did not want to see the city restored. So the opposition set out to convince Nehemiah that what he was attempting to do was a waste of good time.

Have you ever been told that you simply didn't have what it takes to complete some desired goal? When I began my pilgrimage through college and seminary in response to God's leadership in my life, there were those that said I'd never make it. They based their prediction on my prior high school record which, incidentally, wasn't anything to write home about! But God has a way of taking a bad mess and turning it into something fruitful.

The Challenge

Nehemiah did a strange thing. He went out into the moonlight to inspect the ruins! He was keeping his intentions at a low key so as not to cause an uproar among the people. Nehemiah was basically an "outsider" to the people in Jerusalem. Only after he had a clear picture in mind did he call a "town meeting" to discuss with them his dream. What he essentially said to them was "We can do it!" He did not say, "I can do it!" but "We can do it!" Nor did he suggest, "They could do it!" Nehemiah committed to them his skills and leadership. He challenged the people to rebuild their city and its walls. His enthusiasm caught fire and spread through the city!

What can one person do? History abounds with movements and achievements which came about at the hands of one person who dared to lead. All it takes is one person who will dare those around him or her to join in a battle for a good cause. A line in a Christian musical says it correctly: "It only takes a spark to get a fire going." Someone has rightly said that a good idea is forever.

A Restored City

Nehemiah helped the people to rebuild their city and walls. It wasn't the last time that Jerusalem would find itself in ruins. But Jerusalem stands to this day, perhaps partially due to the inspiration of Nehemiah.

A restored city is worthless, however, unless the people within it are redeemed. From Nehemiah we jump to John's Gospel and another of Jesus' "fireside chats." Jesus instructs his disciples that they are to carry on the "Great Commission" he had begun. The disciples were the "grass roots" of the church of Jesus Christ.

Christ challenges his followers to become involved in rebuilding their cities and communities. We are to work to bring the Kingdom of God on earth to resemble something of what it's like in Heaven. We are to be fruitful branches, drawing our strength and mission from "the true vine." Let us rise up and build! Christians banded together can make a BIG difference where there is rebuilding to be done.

(Dr. Trimyer is pastor of Elon Baptist Church in Pamplin City, Va.)

Lawless are they that maketh their will their law. — Shakespeare

People are lonely because they build walls instead of bridges. — Joseph Newton

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Early Childhood Experiences At Home Key Factor in Child's Achievements

by Jeanne Clabough
(Third in a series of four articles)

The 6-week class on child-rearing, offered in the Adult Education Program at ACHS and taught by Mrs. Clabough, will begin on Thursday, February 1 and meet on consecutive Thursdays from 7-9 p.m. The purpose of the class is to inform participants of the simple yet often neglected things that can be done with preschool children at home to enhance their social and intellectual development and provide a sound basis for all later learning. The course will be based on the most extensive research to date on this subject, conducted by Burton L. White and published in the book The First Three Years of Life. *The present series of articles is a brief review of this book. Our class will include an in-depth review of the findings, methods of putting them to work, a workshop for making educational toys and materials to use at home and much sharing of problems and ideas associated with child-rearing. For more information, see the Adult Education Class Schedule elsewhere in this newspaper or call the school board office (352-8263) or Mrs. Clabough (352-5583).*

The second half of one of life's most important periods in terms of education (14-24 months, Dr. White's Phase VI) is reviewed in today's article. By the time a child reaches two years of age, he has become a complex social person with the potential to understand and express hundreds of words, to interact meaningfully with adults, to master some of the skills and objects he so busily explored earlier, and frequently, to begin to exert his own authority, through negativism (leading to a period commonly called "the terrible twos"). According to Dr. White, whether or not a child reaches his potential at age two (and later on) is "influenced in powerful ways by whoever is responsible for him "between the ages of 8 and 24 months. Additionaly, Dr. White found that the better a two-year-old is developing, the easier it is for a family to get through the period of negativism.

Before going into recommended practices for the 14-24 month-old child, Dr. White identifies the distinguishing behaviors that are characteristic of well-developed 3 to 6 year-olds. It follows that whatever encourages such behaviors are good child-rearing practices during Phase VI. The well-developed 3 to 6 year-old shows the following behaviors more frequently and consistently than the average or below-average child of the same age:

1) gets and holds the attention of adults in socially acceptable ways
2) uses adults for help after determining that a job is too difficult
3) expresses both affection and annoyance to adults
4) expresses affection and annoyance to others of his age
5) both leads and follows other his age
6) competes with others his age (Whether or not a family wants to encourage this behavior is debatable.)
7) shows pride in his accomplishments
8) engages in adult role-play and make-believe activities
9) uses everyday language correctly and effectively
10) notices small details and differences
11) anticipates consequences
12) understands abstract things (things that are not in view)
13) makes interesting associations between things
14) can concentrate on one task and also keep track of what is going on around him (dual focusing in a busy environment)

The recommended child-rearing practices for this phase are numerous, and the discussions that accompany each are essential to understanding them fully. Since only the highlights can be mentioned in a review, it is recommended that you read this chapter of the book in its entirety before applying these practices.

1. Main firm discipline, but be wise enough to yield to the child in some situations.
2. Talk and listen to your child frequently and naturally, as you would to a friend. (This is one of the most effective practices you can make.)
3. Continue giving the child maximum access to his environment, indoors and out, and respond positively to his enthusastic discoveries.
4. At this point, do not prolong unrealistically the child's feeling that the world and you were made exclusively for him, especially in the case of a first child.
5. Begin leaving the child for brief periods with some capable person other than the parents.
6. Teach the child by your own behavior, and through other means suggested in the book, the behaviors associated with well-developing children (above list)

The chapter on the Phase VI child also includes a chart of recommended toys and materials for this age.

Some practices not recommended for this aged child are

1. permitting tantrums
2. toilet training (generally not recommended before age two)
3. between-meal snacks

Some materials and toys not recommended for this age are

1. wind-up toys
2. tricycles and xylophones
3. potentially dangerous toys such as ones small enough to swallow (marbles, buttons, etc.), ones with sharp surfaces (Matchbox cars, etc.) and heavy, throwable objects such as lead figures.

Next week: Phase VII (24-36 months), related topics and concluding remarks.

Quality Food Storage

BLACKSBURG — Losses in flavor, color, texture and nutritive value of food can occur any time in the handling and storage of food under poor conditions and these are real losses to the consumer.

Temperatures in the warehouse, retail store, home, and during transportation particularly influence product quality, said a Virginia Tech Extension specialist in consumer education.

It is estimated that most frozen food stored for three days at 30 degrees Fahrenheit undergoes approximately the same quality changes as it would if stored for two months at 10 degrees, or one year at zero degrees, said the specialist, Glen H. Mitchell.

The shelf-like of milk is halved for every five degrees it is stored above 40 degrees. A container with an expected shelf life of 10 days at 40 degrees has a shelf life of two and a half days if stored at 50 degrees.

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